

Congressman Lewis commends you for your interest in the U.S. Service Academies. The honor of attending a service academy comes with the obligation and commitment to serve in the military for a minimum of five years upon graduation.

Members of Congress may nominate candidates for appointment to four of the five U.S. Service Academies:

- [U.S. Air Force Academy \(USAFA\)](#), Colorado Springs, CO
- [U.S. Merchant Marine Academy \(USMMA\)](#), Kings Point, NY
- [U.S. Military Academy \(USMA\)](#), West Point, NY
- [U.S. Naval Academy \(USNA\)](#), Annapolis, MD

The fifth service academy, the [U.S. Coast Guard Academy \(USCGA\)](#), New London, CT, does not require a congressional nomination for appointment.

Each Member of Congress is allowed five individuals enrolled in a particular Academy at any given time. Congressman Lewis can nominate up to ten individuals per slot at each Academy. Each Academy then appoints the nominees who fulfill their admission requirements.

Our office recommends that you apply to all nominating sources and academies available to you. This includes: [The Office of the Vice President](#), [Senator Klobuchar's office](#), [Senator Smith's office](#), and our office.

Timeline for Congressman Lewis' Application Process

- Wednesday, August 1, 2018: Application submittal opens
- Early Fall, TBD: Service Academy Information Night
- Close of business Monday, October 29, 2018: Deadline for submission of application
- Saturday, December 1, 2018: Interview Day
- December 2018 to January 2019: Service Academy Coordinator finalizes Congressman Lewis' nominations
- Late January: Nomination notification letters are mailed to applicants

Eligibility for Nominations

Each applicant for nomination must meet the minimum requirements for nomination:

- Applicants must be between the ages of 17 and not past their 23rd birthday as of July 1 of the year the applicant would enter the academy
- Applicants must be unmarried
- Applicants must not be pregnant or have a legal obligation to support children or other dependents
- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens

Required Materials

- Application for Nomination
- Minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation, *Signed, Dated, Contact Information*
- Official High School Transcript

- College or Prep School Transcript, if applicable
- SAT and/or ACT scores (Photocopies from official testing website are acceptable)
- Essay – No more than two (2) pages, double-spaced
- A photo (no bigger than 4x6)

To apply for a nomination, send your completed application and the other materials listed above to **Congressman Jason Lewis, Attn. Elizabeth Hazekamp, 2805 Cliff Rd E, Suite 200, Burnsville, MN 55337**. On August 1, 2018, Congressman Lewis will begin accepting applications for academy classes entering in the summer of 2019 and graduating in 2023.

Interview Information

The in-person interview will take place Saturday, December 1, 2018 at a location to be determined. All applicants who complete their applications by our deadline will be receive an interview. These interviews are conducted by panels of service academy alumni and/or veterans.

Applicants will be subjected to the “whole-person” approach during their interview session.

Tips

The nomination process is a very competitive one. Candidates should do everything they can to present themselves in the best light. Board members are looking to determine a candidate’s desire to serve.

Here are some tips:

- Proofread application materials.
- Dress professionally for the interviews and if possible, schedule a mock interview so you are better prepared.
- Make sure your letter writers understand what you would like from them - letters that highlight your leadership experience, academics, and character. Letters should come from people such as your guidance counselor, high school principal, teach, coach, etc., not from a family member.
- The nomination process is a non-partisan one.
- Please research each academy carefully and seriously consider applying to more than one. A candidate that states they want to attend the USAFA because they want to fly reveals that they haven’t research the other academies. Similarly, a candidate stating they want to pursue pre-med at the Naval Academy, reveals they haven’t researched the academies well enough.
- If you only want to attend one academy, you should have a good reason for it. All four academies have options for candidates that “want to fly.” Addition, a ROTC program may better meet the needs of a student that wants to pursue medicine.

*****If you have any further questions, don’t hesitate to contact Elizabeth Hazekamp, the Service Academy Coordinator at (651) 846-2122 or Elizabeth.Hazekamp@mail.house.gov.*****